

2014 Themed Cruises

Short introduction of the 2014 Themed Cruise Topics

Enjoy the Real, Authentic Greek Experience with the 61 Louis Cruises Themed Cruises for 2014

Come experience the best of Greece with us!

At Louis Cruises, we know you want to do more than travel to unique destinations. You want a real, authentic Greek experience: archaeology, history, traditions and heritage, folk music and dancing, local cuisine and wine and ouzo (the legendary liqueur of Greece), a variety of contemporary Greek music...You want the best of Greece, and you want to participate. You want to learn, touch, taste...you want to sing and dance. Our **2014 themed cruises** have been designed to satisfy this desire, to give you the best of Greece. We plan to take you deeper into our breathtaking destinations, to tell you the incredible stories behind medieval castles and ancient cities. We want you to taste singular Greek wines and learn how to cook traditional Greek dishes. We want you to put your fingertips to the embroidery upon the centuries-old fabric of our customs and heritage. And, of course, we want you to sing and dance with us until morning. We want you to live "Kalimera" with us. You can't do it with any other cruise line.

Enjoy the Real Authentic Greek Experience with Archaeology

We take you back in time to visit the ancient civilizations of the Aegean

Greek civilization reaches back across three millennia. Thanks to more than 30 centuries of civilization, the Aegean is home to a number of astonishing archaeological sites, including Akrotiri on Santorini, Ancient Ephesus, the Asklepiion outside Kos Town, the Minoan Palace of Knossos in Crete – among the earlier civilizations– and Skarkos on Ios.

We don't want you to stroll through these sites for the highlights – we want you to learn as much as you can about them, before your excursion and during your excursion, so they truly come alive for you. During the 2014 season we will welcome eminent archaeologists on board – these esteemed academics and researchers will give interactive presentations, on board and on shore, during some of our unique excursions.

For example, at Knossos, we have prepared an unforgettable interactive learning experience for passengers who will visit the [Minoan Palace at Knossos](#), which dates to 2,000 B.C. The first segment of the experience takes the audience on an hour-long interactive journey to the ancient Minoan capital with a combination of images, printed materials and video. Our guest archaeologists will guide attendees through the Minoan Palace while acquainting them with the everyday life of the Minoans, their religion and the human sacrifices that were part of their religious practice. The second segment of the program takes place at the Minoan Palace of Knossos, where passengers will be taken on an in-depth, guided tour of the Palace and participate in “knowledge games” designed to teach them about specific areas of the Palace, with prizes awarded to the winning passengers or teams of passengers. The third and final segment of the experience will be a theatrical game in which passengers will “play” different Minoan roles to dig deeper into everyday life at Knossos. We don't just want you to see the Minoan Palace at Knossos and other incredible Aegean archaeological sites: we want you to live it.

Enjoy the Real Authentic Greek Experience with Mining History and Geology

Are you aware that mining began on Milos in 8,000 BC, and that the island is still home to active mines? The geology of Milos is as fascinating as the ancient treasures buried within it, and we are happy to propose a fantastic themed cruise event for you. The “Miloterranean” Geo Experience, an initiative of the Milos Mining Museum, takes you up close to the fascinating geology and mining history of the incredible island of

Milos, an open geological museum. Famed for its unique minerals, it literally rose out of the sea amidst submarine volcanic activity over the course of eons, following the collision of the African and Eurasian continental plates. Thanks to a team of cartographers, historians, forestry experts, geologists and mining engineers, you'll discover the island's unique geology, its rich mining history and its spectacular natural beauty with a lecturer from the Milos Mining Museum.

Enjoy the Real Authentic Greek Experience with History

Immerse Yourself in Our Rich History, from Classical Mythology to the Modern Classics

Education has been a core value for the people of Greece going back thousands of years, when great teachers like Aristotle, Plato and Socrates were revered. Ancient Greece was the birthplace of democracy, philosophy, mathematics, medicine, mythology and poetry. Our home is the land of myths and magic, of poetry and history – the first historian, Herodotus, was Greek.

Mythology is core to our history, and we've developed a themed cruise program for 2014 that combines mythology and history. A team of expert historians and professional theatre actors has prepared a performance exclusively for Louis Cruises passengers, "Following the Trip of Theseus." This educational, interactive play traces the trip of Theseus, the great hero of Attica, through the Aegean, dressing the unique destinations on your cruise itinerary with myths from Classical Greece. "Following the trip of Theseus" brings a number of legendary myths to life, including the stories of Zeus and Artemis, of Theseus and Ariadne, and of Daedalus and Icarus. This 45 minute live performance, enhanced with informative videos and outstanding Greek music, is as entertaining as it is informative.

One of our other history program has been developed by the Lyceum Club of Greek Women to take passengers on an interactive journey through the history of Greek jewellery from the prehistoric era through out the

Classical period, until our days. The Jewellery Defile lecture and exhibition includes replicas of these ancient pieces and some originals, which participants will be able to admire and handle.

How would you like to learn about Greek music from one of the world's best bouzouki players? The History of Music is an interactive seminar presented by bouzouki legend Thanasis Polykandriotis and musicologist Dimitris Stathakopoulos. Messrs. Polykandriotis and Stathakopoulos will introduce you to some of the instruments at the core of Greek folk music, including the bouzouki, tzuras and the bağlama lute. Polykandriotis is also one of Greece's most talented composers, and he and his band of five musicians and four dancers will take you on a melodic journey across the Aegean, with an emphasis on the folk music and folk dancing from the destinations on your cruise itinerary. The program also includes well-known orchestral themes and classic folk songs by Greek composers Xarhakos, Theodorakis and Hadjidakis, and works by composers considered to be the founding fathers of Modern Greek music such as Mikis Theodorakis and Manos Loizos. Polykandriotis's team includes a group of dancers who will teach you classic Greek dances such as the Hasapiko and the Hasaposerviko. Opa!

Enjoy the Real Authentic Greek Experience with Culture and Heritage

Sail with Us through Thousands of Years of Custom and Tradition

[The Lyceum Club of Greek Women](#) is dedicated to the promotion of Greek culture and the preservation of Greek heritage. Established in 1911, the Lyceum Club brings storied Greek traditions to life: their 2014 themed cruises have been created for "students" of all ages. They pay tribute to Greek traditions and values, as expressed through folk dance and music, singing and authentic folk costumes. For 2014, they have prepared a series of interactive programs and performances for our Aegean cruises designed to bring you up-close to the fascinating people who live on these exquisite islands and their time-honored traditions. The extremely popular 2013 themed programs, "**Wedding in the Aegean**" and "**Aegean, its**

Islands and Traditions” will be repeated as part of the Lyceum Club of Greek Women themed cruise program for 2014.

The “Aegean, its Islands and Traditions” enriches the cruise experience with an imaginative journey to the Greek islands to “meet” their people and discover their folk costumes and local customs. These are people who live off the land and the sea, who cultivate their fields, who fish and sponge dive, who make sweet wine and collect aromatic mastic. “Aegean Weddings” recreates the unique customs and ceremonies that accompany this celebration on various islands. Members of the Lyceum Club of Greek Women will sing “dowry songs,” shave the groom, dress the bride and dance the wedding night away. “The Circle of Life” takes participants on a grand tour of our various destinations; thanks to the loving attention to detail the Lyceum Club of Greek Women brings to this fascinating program. The Lyceum Club of Greek Women invites you to meet the people of the Aegean and celebrate their lives: to join them for feasts, to sing and dance with them. Like a true Greek.

Enjoy the Real Authentic Greek Experience with Cuisine

Our Greek Cuisine Themed Cruises Put You in the Middle of the Aegean Kitchen

The quality and incredible variety of Greek cuisine is well-known around the globe, and it is justly famed for its health benefits and its simplicity. Every Louis Cruise is a journey through authentic Greek gastronomy. Our Greek Cuisine experience, which emphasizes the cuisines of the Aegean, includes seminars, show cooking, interactive demonstrations and tastings, all drawn from the local cuisine of each of our destinations. We want you to have a comprehensive experience of the cuisine of this region, to truly taste it.

Our seminars are better than any cooking class you might imagine! In addition to discussing actual recipes and instructions, participants will be involved in a lecture and discussion, led by a gastronomist, about the

origin and history of the local ingredients used in particular dishes. Traditional cooks from each of our destinations, sometimes with assistance from the ship's master chef and his staff, will prepare mouth-watering samples of traditional Aegean dishes with fresh local ingredients, including pastries! Our cooks will use contemporary cooking methods, so passengers with a passion for new recipes can attempt these dishes at home. Some of the foods we will discuss and sample include Cycladic and Cretan cheeses (including gamopilafo) the cheese pies ("pitas") of Milos, Cycladic greens and pulses, and olives and olive oils.

We'll also sweeten your experience with a tour of the pastries of Greece, from delicate and hearty to savory and sweet. Bring your sweet tooth to our pastry demonstrations, where Greek pastry cooks and confectioners will discuss the origin and history behind these extraordinary confections and the fresh local cheeses, creams, fruits, honey and nuts that have been used for centuries to craft irresistible creations such as baklava, galaktoboureko (a creamy custard pie), loukoumades, pasteli and orange pie.

The Louis Cruise Cuisine Experience is delicious. Get your fill.

Enjoy the Real Authentic Greek Experience with Wines and Spirits

Whether You're an Oenophile or You Want to Try Your First Ouzo, You'll Leave Your Ship an Expert on Greek Wines and Spirits

Wine has been produced and enjoyed in Greece for more than 4,000 years, and our wine and spirits themed cruises are a celebration of this rich history. Greece continues to build a global reputation for the quality of its current crop of wines, like Assyrtiko, dry with a fruity character, and Athiri, which is slightly aromatic, both from Santorini. Wines from the Peloponnese, like white Moschofilero, with its aroma of roses and violets and spice, and Agiorghitiko, a dry, aromatic red, have also been acclaimed by wine lovers the world over. The export most identified with Greece, however, is ouzo, an anise-flavoured spirit and the country's national liqueur.

Our wine themed program will be presented by the owner of a Greek winery, who will discuss Greek viniculture, the history of his winery and the production of his wines. After the lecture, a variety of delicious wines will be available for tasting, their bouquets perhaps enhanced by everything you've learned about Greek wine.

We've also planned a serious introduction to a serious beverage. Our ouzo themed cruise features a local ouzo producer who will take you through the origin and history of this authentic Greek liqueur. Following the lecture is a full-on celebration of ouzo, which will be served alongside traditional Greek mezedes (small plates of food served with ouzo, similar to tapas) prepared by our chefs.

Enjoy the Real Authentic Greek Experience with Music

Greek Folk Music, Modern Greek Classics, Greek Pop, Latin Night... Don't Forget to Pack Your Dancing Shoes.

If you want to sing out, sing out, and if you want to dance, please do. Greeks love music and dancing, which is evident on every Louis Cruise: everywhere you go on board our ships, there's music. Our music-themed cruises include everything from interactive seminars about the history of Greek music to full-on dance parties. Looking for authentic Greek rhythm and melody? You'll find it here. We've got performances for music lovers of all ages

How would you like to experience a real, authentic night of Greek music with one of the world's best bouzouki players? Bouzouki legend [Thanasis Polykandriotis and his](#) band of five musicians will take you on a melodic journey across the Aegean, with performances of beloved songs from the destinations on your cruise itinerary. Polykandriotis's team includes a group of dancers who will "teach" you classic Greek dances such as the Hasapiko and the Hasaposerviko. Opa!

Reaching back to the 19th century, we give you the “blues” with [Café Aman Istanbul](#), devotees of rembetiko, a Greek urban folk music which is sometimes called “Greek blues.” A group of master musicians, Café Aman İstanbul blends of different schools of rembetiko. Formed in 2009 after a long period of preparation, the group’s goal is to revive the old Café Aman tradition, and they want you to join them on a virtual journey back to the 19th century. Singing in both Greek and Turkish, Café Aman İstanbul performs rembetiko as well as Ottoman fasıl music, Turkish semi-classical music and Byzantine music, both religious and secular. The group’s repertoire is based on anonymous songs that have passed from the Byzantine to Ottoman times and from the Ottoman period to the present day, as well as music played in the 19th century “Café Amans” of Istanbul and Izmir. The group works with a “musical workshop” approach, and collects its material from private archives, old 78s and written sources. We are thrilled to present Café Aman Istanbul for your listening pleasure and for a crash-course in rembetiko culture and tradition.

“Tribute to the Legends,” one of the most successful themed cruises of our 2013 season, returns in 2014. This incredible concert features the sons of four legendary, beloved Greek singers — Yiannis Parios, Stratos Dionyssiou, Grigoris Bithikotsis and Stamatis Kokotas — who teamed up to pay tribute to their fathers for the “Tribute to the Legends — Songs of our Fathers” tour in 2013. This was one of our most popular themed cruises in 2013, and we’re thrilled to have the boys back on board. This is a night of great music and a wonderful introduction to the Modern Greek songbook. We promise you won’t be able to remain seated for this passionate performance.

On board our ships, we’ve got something for every taste, including the finest in international pop, thanks to [Idra Kayne](#), the most popular soul and funk vocalist in Greece. She’s sailing with us in 2014, so get ready for two non-stop hours of soul, funk, R&B and disco. The dance floor beckons the minute Idra begins belting out classics from Beyoncé, Michael Jackson, Jamiroquai, Madonna and Amy Winehouse alongside her

powerful [original songs](#). Her unforgettable voice will make for an unforgettable night.

[LAMPSI FM 92.3](#) with Popular Greek Pop Singers

[Michalis Tsaousopoulos](#) of Athens Radio Dee Jay 95.2 and [Claydee](#)

If you want to hear the best in Greek pop music, these themed cruises will absolutely rock the boat. Spread over two cruises, this event includes DJ sets by Michalis Tsaousopoulos of Athens Radio Dee Jay 95.2, host of the most popular morning radio show in Athens, who will play live sets on the ship's deck, while dance-pop sensation Claydee, one of Greece's hottest performers and producers, will host a unique party at a winery in spectacular Santorini, where he'll sing his biggest hits, "Mamacita Buena" and "Sexy Papi." Expect an incredible night of high-energy music and dancing.

We also have three of the most exciting singers in Greece joining us on board, thanks to LAMPSI FM 92.3, one of the hottest Greek pop stations in Athens (names to be advised).

Finally, we want to show you real Greek hospitality by inviting you to attend one of our most popular events, Latin Night! We want to provide our passengers with the best, most authentic entertainment, and our special guest star, Venezuelan singer Pedro Santana, delivers the goods with the snap of bongos and the blare of horns. Are you ready to salsa? Born in Caracas and now residing in Athens, Pedro played with some of Venezuela's most renowned orchestras before moving to Spain, where he sang with the Orchestra Leticia and at his own show at the Florida Park Room in Madrid. This is international salsa practically delivered to your door – don't miss it! And don't bother wearing socks, because Pedro and his posse, which includes five dancers, are going to knock them off!